

Election and Amendment of Claims:

Election of Group I and Seq. ID No: 1. Claims 1-7 amended as follows.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. A composition comprising an effective amount of *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
2. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 has a sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 1 and analogs and homologs thereof.
3. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 is present in an amount sufficient to reduce tumor size.
4. The composition according to claim 1 for use in treating rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile idiopathic arthritis, atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, and cancer.
5. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 has a sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 2 and analogs and homologs thereof.
6. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said analogs and homologs include at least one set of polypeptides that include amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 beginning with an amino acid residue from Tyr-63 through Arg-129 and extending at least to an amino acid residue from Asp-241 through Ile-250.
7. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition is formulated for slow release.

Very respectfully yours,



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